



JEFFERSON PARISH

October 2006

COMPLETION REPORT

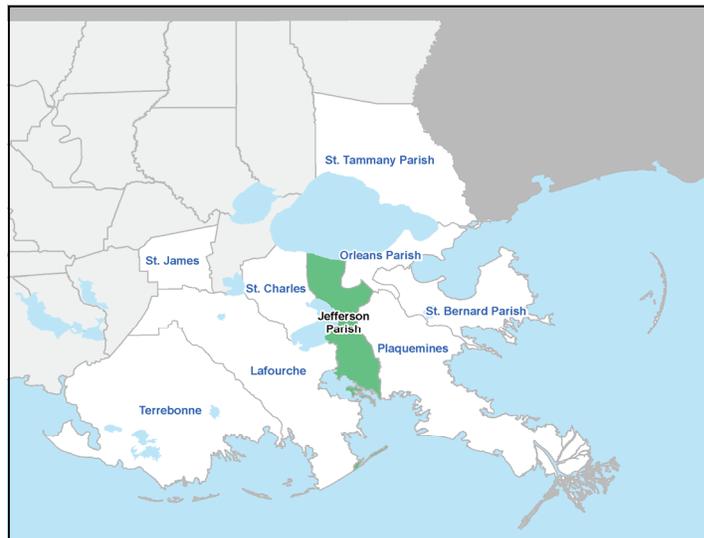
ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A GLANCE

3	Drinking Water Plant Assessments
125	Wastewater Facility Assessments
133	Industry Damage Assessments
170,966	Hazardous Waste Containers Collected
41,488	Electronic Items Collected
80,834	White Goods Collected
15,567	Pounds of Freon Extracted
61,808	Pounds of Ammunition/ Explosives Collected*
1,668,970	Pounds of Cumulative Waste Disposed
129	School Lab Assessments

Since September 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) have worked together to address environmental hazards from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to help Jefferson Parish recover.

One of EPA and LDEQ's first priorities was to ensure residents returning to all the cities affected by the hurricanes had safe drinking water. Throughout Louisiana, assessments were conducted at drinking water facilities, of which 3 were in Jefferson Parish. Similarly, 125 wastewater treatment plants were assessed for damage.

Next, EPA and LDEQ turned to federally-permitted facilities. The agencies conducted interviews and site visits at hazardous waste storage, transfer or disposal facilities. Facilities in southern Louisiana were addressed, including 133 facilities in Jefferson Parish. The site visits and interviews established



that employees could return to work at facilities operating in accordance with federal and state regulations.

collected 293,288 units consisting of appliances, hazardous waste containers, and home electronics. The hazardous materials were recycled or disposed in landfills designed to handle them safely. In Jefferson Parish, EPA and LDEQ have disposed of 1,668,970 pounds of waste as of September 30, 2006.

In response to community concerns about potential harm from firearms, ammunition and explosives, EPA began collecting these materials for appropriate disposal in January 2006. In Jefferson Parish, 8 firearms were collected. In southeastern Louisiana, 61,808 pounds of ammunition, explosives, fireworks and other similar items were collected.



Left: EPA sampling a source of Jefferson Parish drinking water.

Because of concerns that damaged chemicals in school biology and chemistry laboratories could cause a health hazard, EPA and LDEQ conducted assessments at schools in southern Louisiana. Some chemical containers were found to be damaged by the hurricanes, by flood waters and/or from heat exposure. EPA and LDEQ, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police and local fire departments, removed dangerous chemicals from schools in southern Louisiana. One hundred twenty-nine schools in Jefferson Parish were assessed; chemicals were removed from 22 of them.

Paint, computers, washing machines, and refrigerators in homes under normal circumstances are not usually considered hazardous. However, when hundreds of thousands of these items become waste products at the same time, the hazardous components in them could create problems. To help remove these materials from the waste going to Louisiana's municipal landfills, EPA and LDEQ

* Reflects more than Jefferson Parish activities.